

## **HOUSE BILL No. 1469**

DIGEST OF HB 1469 (Updated February 2, 2015 12:34 pm - DI 123)

Citations Affected: IC 22-2.

**Synopsis:** Wage payment and wage assignment. Provides that an employer who fails to make timely payment of wages or withholds wages in bad faith, may, in addition to the wages due, pay liquidated damages, court costs, and a reasonable fee for the employee's attorney. Provides that an employee may assign wages for: (1) the purchase, rental, or use of uniforms or equipment necessary to fulfill the duties of employment; (2) reimbursement for education or employee skills training; (3) an advance for payroll or vacation pay; and (4) meals eaten by the employee at a location provided by the employer.

Effective: July 1, 2015.

## Ober, Carbaugh

January 14, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on Judiciary. February 3, 2015, amended, reported — Do Pass.



First Regular Session of the 119th General Assembly (2015)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in this style type, and deletions will appear in this style type.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or *this style type* reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2014 Regular Session and 2014 Second Regular Technical Session of the General Assembly.

## **HOUSE BILL No. 1469**

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning labor and safety.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. IC 22-2-5-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015]: Sec. 2. Every such person, firm,
corporation, limited liability company, or association who shall fail to
make payment of wages to any such employee as provided in section
1 of this chapter shall as liquidated damages for such failure, pay be
liable to such the employee for each day that the amount due to him
remains unpaid ten percent (10%) of the amount due to him in addition
thereto, not exceeding double the amount of unpaid wages, due, and
said damages the amount may be recovered in any court having
jurisdiction of a suit to recover the amount due to such the employee.
and In addition, if the court in any such suit so brought to recover
said wages or the determines that the person, firm, corporation
limited liability company, or association that failed to pay the
employee as provided in section 1 of this chapter was not acting in
good faith, the court:



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1	(1) may order as liquidated damages for nonpayment thereof, or
2	both, the court shall the failure to pay wages, that the employee
3	be paid an amount not to exceed ten percent (10%) of the
4	amount due to the employee for each day that the amount due
5	to the employee remains unpaid, with the total amount
6	awarded under this subdivision not to exceed triple the
7	amount of wages due to the employee; and
8	(2) shall tax and assess as costs in said the case a reasonable fee
9	for the plaintiff's attorney or attorneys; and court costs.
10	SECTION 2. IC 22-2-6-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
11	[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015]: Sec. 2. (a) Any assignment of the wages
12	of an employee is valid only if all of the following conditions are
13	satisfied:
14	(1) The assignment is:
15	(A) in writing;
16	(B) signed by the employee personally;
17	(C) by its terms revocable at any time by the employee upon
18	written notice to the employer; and
19	(D) agreed to in writing by the employer.
20	(2) An executed copy of the assignment is delivered to the
21	employer within ten (10) days after its execution.
22	(3) The assignment is made for a purpose described in subsection
23	(b).
24	(b) A wage assignment under this section may be made for the
25	purpose of paying any of the following:
26	(1) Premium on a policy of insurance obtained for the employee
27	by the employer.
28	(2) Pledge or contribution of the employee to a charitable or
29	nonprofit organization.
30	(3) Purchase price of bonds or securities, issued or guaranteed by
31	the United States.
32	(4) Purchase price of shares of stock, or fractional interests
33	therein, of the employing company, or of a company owning the
34	majority of the issued and outstanding stock of the employing
35	company, whether purchased from such company, in the open
36	market or otherwise. However, if such shares are to be purchased
37	on installments pursuant to a written purchase agreement, the
38	employee has the right under the purchase agreement at any time
39	before completing purchase of such shares to cancel said
40	agreement and to have repaid promptly the amount of all
41	installment payments which theretofore have been made.

(5) Dues to become owing by the employee to a labor



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1	organization of which the employee is a member.
2	(6) Purchase price of merchandise, sold goods, or food offered
3	by the employer and sold to the employee, for the employee's
4	benefit, use, or consumption, at the written request of the
5	employee.
6	(7) Amount of a loan made to the employee by the employer and
7	evidenced by a written instrument executed by the employee
8	subject to the amount limits set forth in section 4(c) of this
9	chapter.
10	(8) Contributions, assessments, or dues of the employee to a
11	hospital service or a surgical or medical expense plan or to an
12	employees' association, trust, or plan existing for the purpose of
13	paying pensions or other benefits to said employee or to others
14	designated by the employee.
15	(9) Payment to any credit union, nonprofit organizations, or
16	associations of employees of such employer organized under any
17	law of this state or of the United States.
18	(10) Payment to any person or organization regulated under the
19	Uniform Consumer Credit Code (IC 24-4.5) for deposit or credit
20	to the employee's account by electronic transfer or as otherwise
21	designated by the employee.
22	(11) Premiums on policies of insurance and annuities purchased
21 22 23	by the employee on the employee's life.
24	(12) The purchase price of shares or fractional interest in shares
25	in one (1) or more mutual funds.
26	(13) A judgment owed by the employee if the payment:
27	(A) is made in accordance with an agreement between the
28	employee and the creditor; and
29	(B) is not a garnishment under IC 34-25-3.
30	(14) The purchase of uniforms and equipment necessary to
31	fulfill the duties of employment. The total amount of wages
32	assigned may not exceed the lesser of:
33	(A) two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) per year;
34	or
35	(B) the amount limits set forth in section 4(c) of this
36	chapter.
37	(15) Reimbursement for education or employee skills training
38	(16) An advance for:
39	(A) payroll; or
40	(B) vacation;
41	pay.
12	(a) The interest rate shouged on amounts leaved or advanced to



- 1 an employee and repaid under subsection (b) may not exceed the
- 2 bank prime loan interest rate as reported by the Board of
- 3 Governors of the Federal Reserve System or any successor rate,
- 4 plus four percent (4%).



## COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred House Bill 1469, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that said bill be amended as follows:

Page 1, line 11, after "addition," insert "if".

Page 1, line 12, after "the" insert "determines that the person, firm, corporation, limited liability company, or association that failed to pay the employee as provided in section 1 of this chapter was not acting in good faith, the court:".

Page 1, line 12, delete "may:".

Page 1, line 13, after "(1)" insert "may".

Page 2, line 3, delete "double" and insert "triple".

Page 2, line 5, after "(2)" insert "shall".

Page 2, line 41, after "merchandise" insert ",".

Page 2, line 41, strike "sold" and insert "goods, or food offered".

Page 2, line 41, after "employer" insert "and sold".

Page 2, line 42, after "employee," insert "for the employee's benefit, use, or consumption,".

Page 3, delete lines 25 through 37, begin a new line block indented and insert:

- "(14) The purchase of uniforms and equipment necessary to fulfill the duties of employment. The total amount of wages assigned may not exceed the lesser of:
  - (A) two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) per year; or
  - (B) the amount limits set forth in section 4(c) of this chapter.
- (15) Reimbursement for education or employee skills training.
- (16) An advance for:
  - (A) payroll; or
  - (B) vacation;

pay.

(c) The interest rate charged on amounts loaned or advanced to an employee and repaid under subsection (b) may not exceed the bank prime loan interest rate as reported by the Board of



Governors of the Federal Reserve System or any successor rate, plus four percent (4%).".

Renumber all SECTIONS consecutively.

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to HB 1469 as introduced.)

**STEUERWALD** 

Committee Vote: yeas 6, nays 1.

